National Coalition of Black Gays

File

P. O. BOX 57236 - WEST END STAT.: D. C. 20037

202-797-8877

NEW ADDRESS

November 15, 1979

Dear Friends:

The historical NATIONAL THIRD WORLD LESBIAN/GAY CONFERENCE was made a reality by the contributions of those who:

a. participated in and contributed to the culture events of of THE CONFERENCE;
b. facilitated workshops and panels that stimulated our thinking;
c. volunteered for the tasks which few of us like but all of us needed;
d. gave financially and in-kindly to the pleasure of our creditors; (we are left with a $1,500 debt and are welcoming donations)
e. took the time and made the financial sacrifices to participate in a conference some thought was "an esoterical event".

NCBG's Board members and CONFERENCE Planners thank you - all of you! ! !

For those interested in statistical data:

a. there were 527 registered CONFERENCE participants;
b. there were approximately 100 observers (persons attending parts of the CONFERENCE but not registering);
c. 55% of the registered CONFERENCE participants were women;
d. 40 States, the District of Columbia, and 5 countries (Canada, Costa Rica, Mexico, Sierra Leon, and Trinidad) were represented;
e. the largest contingents were from New York, D.C., and California;
f. wherein Blacks were the largest ethnic group present, we do not know the ethnic/racial ratio of the CONFERENCE. It is estimated that about 20% of the participants were non-third world persons and about 5% were non-gay persons. It is a fact that all four of the third world ethnic groups (Afro Americans, American Indians, American Asians, and Latin Americans) were represented ;
g. students from 49 universities and colleges registered at the CONFERENCE,
h. 30 different publications and media networks sent representatives to the CONFERENCE;
i. 103 different organizations/businesses identified themselves (15% indicated they were "non-gay, but supportive").

OUTCOME OF THE CONFERENCE

There were two major questions asked at the THIRD WORLD LESBIAN/GAY CONFERENCE:

1. "WHEN WILL THE IGNORANCE END?"

2. "WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?"

Enclosed is the keynote speech given by Audre Lorde who gave us the answers:

"...the ignorance will end when each of us is prepared to put ourselves upon the line to end it, within ourselves, and within our communities...."

In response to this challenge the following events are happening:

a. a national Latin American Lesbian and Gay Men's Coalition has been established (contact Rodrigo Reyes @ 562 Guerrero -#1 in San Francisco, Ca. 94110; 415-431-1362);

b. a national Asian American Lesbian and Gay Men's Coalition is being established (contact Daniel Tsang @ P. O. Box 2337 in Phil. Pa 19103 215-787-8667);

c. a stronger national Gay American Indians Association is developing (contact Gay American Indians @ P. O. Box 2194 in South San Francisco, Ca. 94080; 415-431-2553);

d. a Committee Of Gay Black Men has been established and is having a conference at the Cabana Hotel in Atlanta, Georgia (870 Peachtree Street 30383) from Saturday, January 12th thru Monday, January 14th) Contacts: Greg Worthy @ 404-636-7237 or Tony Henry @ 215-241-7034;

e. Two new NCBG chapters have been formed (Philadelphia: Tony Henry @ 215-241-7034 and New York City: Renee McCoy @ 212-242-1212) and an NCBG Conference has been called in Detroit, Michigan from March 28th thru March 30th. Contacts: Deborah Posey @ 313-868-1069 or NCBG @ 202-797-8877;

f. Two lesbian/gay student organizations are being formed on Black campuses:
Howard University: Wanda Seay @ 212-797-1799
Norfolk State Univ: Kevin Booker @ 804-547-8823

g. A National Gay Youth Communications Network has been established;
For further information write: NGYCN @ 816 I Street, NE
Washington, D. C. 20002

It looks like we meant what we said and said what we meant when we chanted:

"Third World - We Must Be Heard!
Third World - Liberation!
Third World - We Will Be Heard!
Third World - Liberation!"

In response to "where do we go from here?", about 50 of us met on October 15th and discussed resolutions from our organizations, from the conference caucuses, and from the conference workshops. They have been compiled and are enclosed for your review; for your approval or disapproval; for your implementation. We think the words of conference participant, Barbara Smith of Combahee River Collective as quoted by Boston GCN merit some reflection:

> "Having been in Houston (for the U.S. International Women's Year Convention in 1977) where a lot of resolutions got passed, I've come to understand that...writing something down on a piece of paper doesn't get very far. All the resolutions we passed in Houston made us feel good, but the President and Congress could just throw them out the window....I think that developing strategies for organizing around third world lesbian and gay issues might be more productive than passing resolutions that may or may not meet those needs....Resolutions usually contain a 'should'."

NCBG will not "throw the resolutions out the window" - and we hope you won't either. We strongly encourage every third world organization, caucus, committee, and individual to develop strategies and implement programs which are meaningful to us as racial and sexual minorities.

NCBG's COMMITTMENT

Our role in the planning of the 2nd Third World Lesbian/Gay Conference will be minimal but we feel a responsibility to:

a. professionally document the 1st Third World Lesbian/Gay Conference in a manner that preserves its historical significance;

b. immediately begin promoting the 2nd and 3rd Third World Conference to all Third World Persons - especially Black Lesbians and Gay Men;

c. pursue fund raising projects to get Third World persons to San Francisco in 1980 and Mexico City in 1981.

START SAVING NOW. As soon as we get the exact date from the Third World Lesbian/Gay organizations in the San Francisco Bay Area we will inform you so that you and yours can start planning. If each of you who attended the first conference bring just one third world person, there will be over 1,000 persons at our second conference - "We Will Be Heard!" .

PRESERVING OUR HISTORY

Many of you taped sessions, workshops, causes, etc. Others of you photographed events of the conference which are worthy of preserving and sharing. You can help us to document the conference by sharing your tapes and photographs with us.

NCBG would also like to have copies of any newspapers and magazines which covered the conference. Of greater importance are your comments. If you have not returned your evaluation forms please do so soon - or just mail us your comments in whatever format that is comfortable to you. Your telling us what was bad and what was good about the 1st conference will enable the planners for the 2nd conference to do a better job.

Workshop facilitators - please give us feedback from your workshops.

Organizational Contacts and Conference Contacts - we would like to know the who, what, where, when, and why's of all Third World Lesbian/Gay organizations and events. Please put NCBG on your mailing list. We are willing to promote your activities through our bi-monthly newsletter (starting in January) or through our monthly mailings. Several organizations have asked us to include promotional material about their organization or event. If the event or organization is focusing on third world issues, NCBG will include your flier in our mailing; however, even non-profit bulk mailing is expensive so we ask you to help off-set the cost by donating $.02 perflier (current mailing list is 2,000).

BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Starting in January, NCBG will attempt a bi-monthly newsletter which will give our readers updated information about projects and activities involved in by all of its chapters, editorials, letters of interest, and any other material received from you and deemed newsworthy to a Black and Third World community. Contributed articles should be sent to our new mailing address:

NCBG/Newsletter - P. O. Box 57236 - West End Station in Washington, D. C. 20037

MTSSING BANNERS

Remember the beautiful hand painted third world conference banner which was on display at the general sessions and which was carried in the march? It is missing - lost. We are hoping that one of you is preserving it for us. The NCBG banner is also missing - lost. If you know of their whereabouts, please inform us; or if you have them in your care, please mail them to us - C.O.D. if necessary.

$$$$ HELP $$$$

With the conference behind us and all outstanding bills in our hands, NCBG finds itself $1,500 in debt. If everyone who attended the conference just sent $3 more - $3 from everyone - we will be out of debt for the conference and have a little left over for the planners of the 2nd conference. Checks should be made payable to: "NCBG/CONFERENCE" and mailed to our new address: P. O. Box 57236 in D. C. 20037

SOUVENIRS

Orders for CONFERENCE T-shirts ($6.75) and posters ($3.75) are being accepted through December 1st. Orders must be pre-paid. Use enclosed form to place order. Persons who ordered an NCBG T-shirt (out of stock) will receive a CONFERENCE T-shirt in its place unless a refund is requested by Dec. 1st. We are out of NCBG buttons and CONFERENCE programs.

Some of you may be receiving promotional material from:

BLACKLIGHT - a monthly newsletter of the D. C. Coalition of Black Gays. They are offering for $2 a special photo issue featuring the Third World Conference. Requests and payments should be made to: BL -c/oCOBG; P.O. Box 56255; Washington, D. C. 20011

TOGETHERNESS BLACK LESBIAN/GAY RAP GROUP - If you live in the D. C. area, these two hour Sunday growth and support sessions could prove enlightening. For more details call Gary Martin @ 202-232-5405.

CONDITIONS 5 - a magazine (book) costing $3 featuring poetry, songs, essays, reviews, and fiction by beautiful Black women such as Donna Allegra, Alexis De Veaux, Audrey Ewart, Audre Lorde, Gloria Hull, Linda Powell, et al. Order by writing: CONDITIONS @ P. O. Box 56; Van Brunt Stat. in Brooklyn, New York 11215

Photographs of 3rd World Conference - Official photographers were Sharon Farmer (202-797-7222) and Leigh Mosley (202-332-7977) who captured our frustrations and our joys in ways that others could not. For photos with lasting memories, call them today.

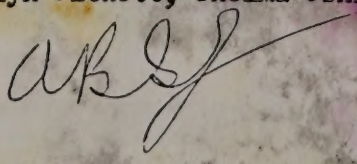
NEW THIRD WORLD ORGANIZATIONS

Haiwai Zhongkuo Tunghsing Lianhui
Overseas Chinese Gay & Lesbian Community
P. O. Box 97478
Tsim Sha Tsui Post Office; Hong Kong
c/o Ng, S. M.

The Caribbean Homosexuals Assoc.(CHA)
P. O. Box 765-A
St. Georges, Grenada; West Indies
(seeking funds & office supplies)
c/o Dennis Auguestine

Please use discretion when addressing envelopes to above organizations.

Again, thank you! Billy Jones, Delores Berry, Darlene Hines, Lou Hughes, Jon Gee, Carolyn Pickett, Thelma Oshin, Gilberto Gerald, Renee McCoy



NCBG = A Political-Educational Network
P.O. BOX 57236 - WEST END STATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20037
202-797-8877

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM BY DECEMBER 1, 1979*** PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM BY 12/1/79

NAME _____ PHONE _____
Please Print Include Area Code

ADDRESS _____
Please Print - Include zip code

We receive material sometimes aimed for a specific gender or for persons of a specific ethnic/racial background. For that reason, please provide the below information:

GENDER: _____ WOMAN _____ MAN _____ TRANSPERSON

RACE/ETHNIC BACKGROUND:

_____ Black/Negro/Afro-American

_____ Latin American/Hispanic

_____ AMERICAN INDIANS

_____ ASIAN AMERICANS

_____ NON-THIRD WORLD

_____ OTHER

_____

_____

I WOULD LIKE TO REMAIN ON NCBG's MAILING LIST ____ YES ____ NO

My address and name may be passed on to:

_____ Planners For The 2nd Third World Conference

_____ Planners For The 3rd Third World Conference

_____ Planners For Regional/State Third World Conference

_____ Planners For Gender or Ethnic Conferences

_____ Persons Involved In Lesbian/Gay Sociological Research

_____ Do NOT Pass My Name And Address On To Any Individual or Organization

Please take a few minutes to observe if your name and address are correct on the envelope. Our mailing list is confidential and is not shared or sold.

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AFTER READING , THINKING ABOUT, AND DISCUSSING THE RESOLUTIONS ENCLOSED WITH THIS MAILING, PLEASE VOTE "YES" or "NO".

RESOLUTIONS	YES	NO	NO OPINION
A.			A.
B.			B.
C.			C.
D.			D.
E.			E.
F.			F.
G.			G.
H.			H.
I.			I.
J.			J.
K.			K.
L.			L.
M.			M.
N.			N.
O.			O.

ANY ADDITIONAL COMMENTS OR RESOLUTIONS: